

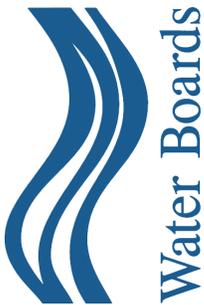


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2010

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State Water Resources Control Board Alerts Surface Water Diversifiers of Filing Deadline for New Water Diversion Reporting Requirements

SACRAMENTO – The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is notifying property owners and others who divert surface water and water from subterranean streams under specific conditions that they are subject to penalties of \$1,000 or more if they do not file a Statement of Water Diversion and Use (Statement) by July 1, 2010. This requirement does not apply to homeowners and property owners served by municipal water supplies.

The requirement is set out in Senate Bill 8 (SBX7 8), which was passed by the Legislature in 2009. The legislation expanded the definition of who is required to file a Statement, and provided for the imposition of administrative civil liability penalties for failure to file and/or for filing faulty Statements.

Any water diverter, who has not already filed a Statement, must file an initial Statement by July 1. If a water diverter has previously filed a Statement, the law requires that they continue to file triennial Supplemental Statements on the next reporting due date. A separate Statement must be filed for each point of diversion.

The State Water Board's Division of Water Rights was also authorized by the Legislature to increase its enforcement staff to prevent and investigate any unauthorized diversion and use of water throughout the State.

An updated description of the Statement requirements and potential exemptions can be reviewed at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/diversion_use/

California Water News